"those enduring matinee idols"

FOR THE SERIAL LOVERS
WHO STILL REMEMBER
SATURDAY MATINEES

OCTOBER — NOVEMBER 1970
VOLUME 1 - CHAPTER 7

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THE FOUR INDEPENDENTS ('35)

by Jim Stringham

Altho numerous independently produced and released serials appeared thru-out the days of the silent, they were noticeably absent from the early and late talkies. The mid-'30s, however, saw several offered to compete with Mascot (later Republic) and Universal. And they found a ready market place until Columbia began a full schedule of serial releases. "The Incipient Year" ('35) offered a widely varying quality.

(Edward Kull and Wilbur McGaugh directed.)

THE NEW ADVENTURES OF TARZAN, done in the grand style, was easily the best of the group. The producers sent their troupe to Guatemala to film the story of Tarzan's search for his friend D'Arnot. The French explorer had been captured by the half-human inhabitants of an ancient Mayan ruins after his plane crashed in the jungle. The Martling expedition followed, seeking the "Green Goddess," sacred monolith containing a fortune in gems (and, somehow, the secret of an incredibly powerful explosive!). These were enough to bring a group of rebels into the action, and they, in turn, were followed by the Guatemalan Secret Service.

It was great fun, and had at least one scene deserving of immortality. As the rest of the party battled their native captors, a rope holding Alice Martling (Dale Walsh) frayed . . . weakened . . . *snapped!* — and the girl plunged into a pit of lions! Tarzan appeared, leaped into the pit, picked up one of the beasts, and hurled it into the mob of natives. There was no further opposition .

CHAPTER TITLES

1. **The New Adv. of Tarzan**
2. **Crossed Trails**
3. **The Devil's Noose**
4. **River Perils**
5. **Unseen Hands**
6. **Fatal Fangs**
7. **Flaming Waters**
8. **Angry Gods**
9. **Doom's Brink**
10. **Secret Signals**
11. **Death's Fireworks**
12. **Operator No. 17**

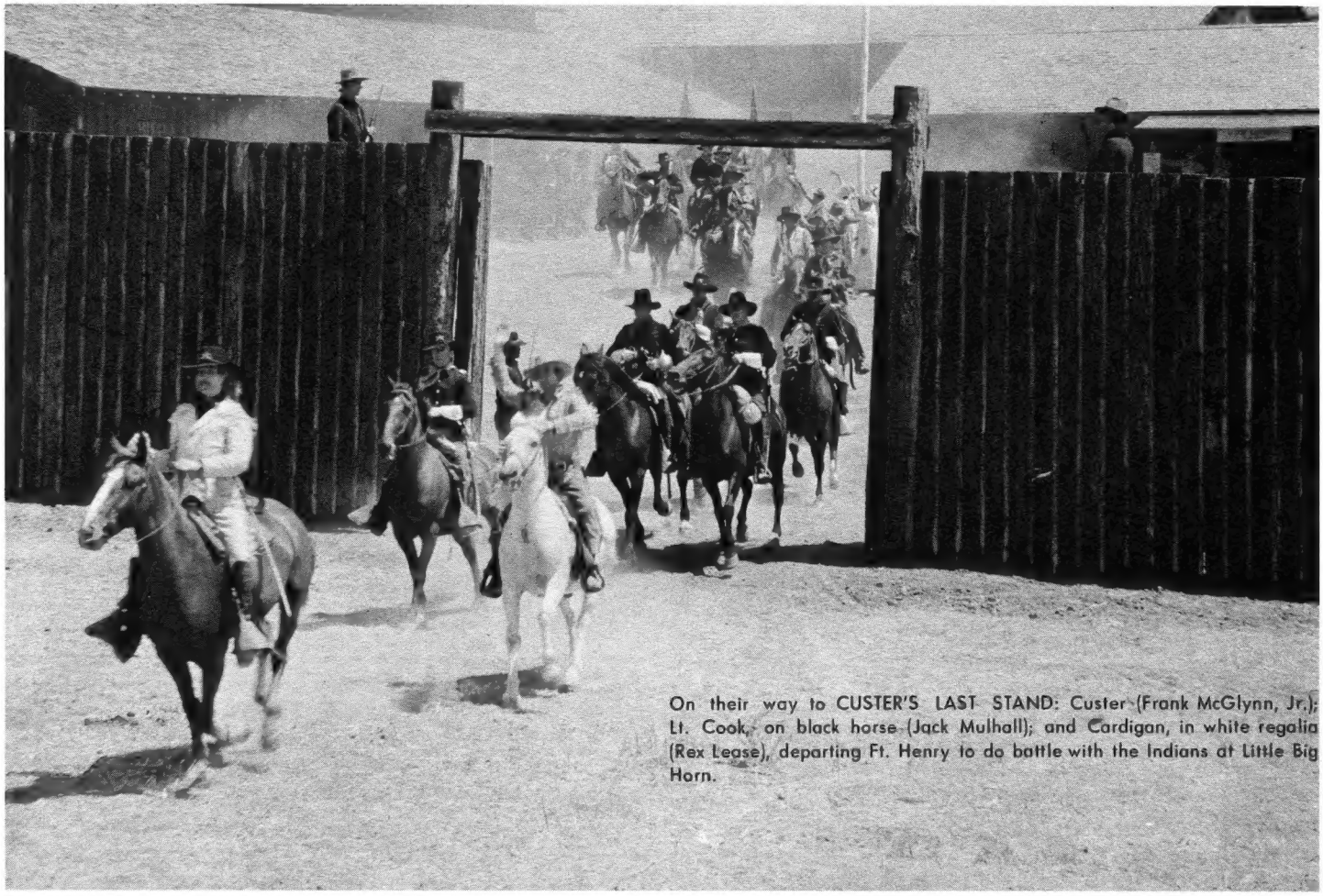
The thrills were "stock film" and the laughs unintentional in QUEEN OF THE JUNGLE, a serial built around footage from the silent JUNGLE GODDESS ('22). David Worth (Dickie Jones) and Joan Lawrence (Marilyn Spinner), children with a group of explorers seeking African radium deposits, played in the basket of the party's balloon. The huge inflated bag was "liberated" with the girl aboard and later shot down with a flaming arrow by natives. The child from the sky was revered by "a thousand blacks" as their queen and priestess. These events filled a rather dull opening chapter.

About halfway thru the second episode, David (now Reed Howes) returned to Africa to search for his childhood friend and the story began to come alive. He contacted members of the original group and was soon on the trail. Captured by hostile natives, he was brought to their sadistic ruler for judgment. *It was Joan!* (Mary Kornman). Unaware of her true identity, she ordered the stranger sacrificed to the tribal god. David was tied before a huge idol. Its eyes shone as a concealed radium cylinder was uncovered. The rays reached toward the helpless captive. *His clothes began to smoke . . . burn, as the beams intensified!*

(*Next week,* a friendly native found a locket bearing a picture of Joan as a child that David had dropped. Intrigued, she saved him. The remainder of the serial told of their attempts to escape together to civilization.)

CHAPTER TITLES

1. **Lost in the Clouds**
2. **Radium Rays**
3. **The Hand of Death**
4. **The Native's Revenge**
5. **Black Magic**
6. **The Death Vine**
7. **The Leopard Leaps**
8. **The Doom Ship**
9. **Death Rides the Waves**
10. **The Temple of Mu**
11. **Fangs in the Dark**
12. **The Pit of the Lions**



On their way to CUSTER'S LAST STAND: Custer (Frank McGlynn, Jr.); Lt. Cook, on black horse (Jack Mulhall); and Cardigan, in white regalia (Rex Lease), departing Ft. Henry to do battle with the Indians at Little Big Horn.

Weiss-Mintz set their "independent serial" in the American west. Army units attempted to maintain order as settlers poured into the frontier. Indians fought to retain their lands. Clashes were inevitable, and, in one, a sacred golden arrow was lost. Major Trent, a former Confederate doctor, recovered it. Unknown to the Major or Barbara, his daughter, it carried the secret of the location of an Indian cavern of gold. Renegade Tom Blade, Keen Blade to the Indians (actor Reed Howes), sought the arrow. He found it necessary to keep the conflict hot to achieve his purpose. A capable scout named Kit Cardigan (Rex Lease) suspected Blade and fought to prevent all-out war, but the stage was set for CUSTER'S LAST STAND.

The serial abounded in subplots and stars. The opening chapters were well done, with exciting climaxes. One of the best featured a fight between Cardigan and Lt. Roberts (George Chesebro), a renegade trooper, during an Indian attack. As they battled, fire arrows ignited the building and blazing wreckage crashed about them. But later chapter endings were tame and often repetitious. Players repeatedly fell thru trap doors or seemed trapped as Indians swooped down on them. There was no question as to Custer's (Frank McGlynn, Jr.) fate, making his story a poor basis for a serial. But Cardigan escaped to kill Blade in the final showdown.

You could have cast a dozen serials with the actors, who included (besides those mentioned elsewhere) Lona Andre, *both* Franklyn and William Farnum, Nancy Caswell, Jack Mulhall, Dorothy Gulliver, Ruth Mix, Helen Gibson, Bill Desmond, Ted Adams, and many, many more. Elmer Clifton directed.

Here the evil Fitzpatrick (actor William Farnum, who later portrayed the saintly Father McKim in THE LONE RANGER) and renegade Tom Blade (Reed Howes) conspire to get their hands on "the magic arrow," which holds the key to the location of a fortune in gold.

CHAPTER TITLES

1. **Perils of the Plains**
2. **Thundering Hoofs**
3. **Fires of Vengeance**
4. **The Ghost Dancers**
5. **Trapped**
6. **Human Wolves**
7. **Demons of Disaster**
8. **White Treachery**
9. **Circle of Death**
10. **Flaming Arrow**
11. **Warpath**
12. **Firing Squad**
13. **Red Panthers**
14. **Custer's Last Ride**
15. **The Last Stand**

Violent earthquakes threatened the nations of the world! Engineer Bruce Gordon (Kane Richmond), tracing the power which caused these disasters, was led to THE LOST CITY. There, in a vast modern steel laboratory built on the site of the home of a vanished race of white Africans, the evil Dr. Zolok (William "Stage" Boyd) ruled. His warriors were natives transformed into giants, and his weapons included super explosives and death rays. Key to his power was Dr. Manyus, whose genius he controlled by holding his daughter Natcha (Claudia Dell) a prisoner. Gordon's party was able to rescue them and escape into the jungle. They encountered a tribe whose leader complicated matters further by taking a fancy to Gordon. Far from coy, she indicated her feelings by carving the legend "Rama's Desire" onto his chest. Needless to say, the action moved back to the city of the title — which was finally destroyed by Zolok's own weapons.

CHAPTER TITLES

1. **Living Dead Men**
2. **Tunnel of Death**
3. **Dagger Rock**
4. **Doomed**
5. **Tiger Prey**
6. **Human Beasts**
7. **Spider Men**
8. **Human Targets**
9. **Jungle Vengeance**
10. **The Lion Pit**
11. **The Death Ray**
12. **The Mad Scientist**

(L. to R.) Eddie Fetherson (so spelled in the advertising, but it should have read Fetherstone), Kane Richmond and Claudia Dell in the laboratory of Doctor Zolok. Others in the cast included George Hayes (later "Gabby"), Ralph Lewis, Billy Bletcher (he dubbed the voice of THE LONE RANGER) and Josef Swickard.

Sherman S. Krellberg, the producer, was also (at the time) owner of the Belmont Theater in N.Y.C. Judging from the scene here, he certainly didn't spare any expense on his highly imaginative sets. Direction was placed in the hands of Harry Revier.

THE CALL OF THE SAVAGE started out as a series of stories by Otis Adelbert Kline in Argosy magazine (trumpeted as *Jan of the Jungle*). Interestingly, the copyright for the *novel* was issued to Mrs. Ellen S. Kline in 1931. What Kline wrote was definitely not fit reading for children, as witness this bit from chapter one:

> The kidnapping of the day-old-boy (Jan) had been ridiculously easy. At first the doctor's (Bracken) diabolical plan had been to mutilate and cripple the child, turn his face into a hideous monstrosity, and return him to his parents. But an event had occurred in the menageries which changed his plans and gave him the germ of an even more diabolical scheme.
>
> For the male chimpanzee, Tichuk, at that time caged with his mate Chicma, had slain their little one in a fit of fury and was attacking her, when the doctor returned with the stolen baby. Dr. Bracken had quieted both chimpanzees with hypodermics and removed the unconscious Tichuk to another cage. Then, a terrible smile upon his face, he had skinned the baby chimpanzee, treated its hide with an odorless preservative — and sewed the cotton-padded skin about the human baby. As Chicma came out of her drugged sleep he placed the child in her arms.
>
> The chimpanzee, dazed and foggy of perception, had sniffed the hairy hide of her own child. She recognized the scent and feel. Nature and mother-instinct conquered, and she fed the hungry infant.

In cleansing the story for its 12-chapter serial THE CALL OF THE SAVAGE (released 4/15/35 and directed by Louis Friedlander), Universal Pictures lost much in the transition.

Dr. Harry Trevor (Bryant Washburn), father of Jan, along with Doctors Frank Bracken (Walter Miller) and Charles Phillips (Frederic MacKaye) have a medical experiment station deep in the jungles of Africa where they are searching for a formula that will cure infantile paralysis. Trevor is interested only in accomplishing something that will benefit humanity; Bracken and Phillips want the $500,000 that will come with detection. Trevor discovers the formula and the others conspire to steal it.

Trevor, suspecting deviltry afoot, writes one-half the formula on parchment and the other half on a flexible band placed on the wrist of young Jan (7-year-old Dickie Jones).

Lions escape from a menagerie and kill Jan's mother. Meanwhile, fire breaks out and Trevor is knocked unconscious. In the excitement, Chicma, playmate of Jan, leads him into the jungle. Thinking they all have been destroyed, Bracken and Phillips return to America.

15 years later the Foundation sends Bracken and Phillips back to Africa. They discover Trevor is still alive, but has lost his memory as well as any knowledge of the formula.

Enter Mona Andrews (Ramona Suarez in the book). [Mona was played by Dorothy Short, who later married Dave O'Brien and also played opposite him in CAPTAIN MIDNIGHT ('42).]

The freight schooner bringing her from England stops in an African port to pick up ivory tusks. Natives report that a mysterious wild white boy has been seen swinging thru the trees with a chimp. After a fight, Jan (now played by 19-year-old Noah Beery, Jr.) and Chicma are taken prisoners aboard the vessel. The boat sets off to sea. That night a terrific storm comes up, the ship springs a leak, and Mona, Jan and Chicma — now joined by Borno (H.L. "Harry" Woods) — are washed overboard. A terrific explosion blows the ship to bits. End of episode one.

A raft makes a convenient appearance and assures our heroes safe passage to shore. Borno turns out to be a banished member of the lost Kingdom of Mu. He recognizes a tattoo mark in the palm of Mona and addresses her as "Princess." In chapter five, Borno reveals that Mona is not Andrew's daughter, but is the lost Princess of the Kingdom of Mu.

[Editor's Note: In the original story, Jan does not escape from Bracken's laboratory until he is 16. During his adventures with Chicma, after fleeing into the jungle, encounters are made "with the gigantic puma, the grotesque thunder bird, and the god-monster Sebek" — every one of which was omitted from the serial. Surprising. Also, Jan's mother is alive and well at the end of the novel. She was the reason (in the novel) for Bracken kidnapping Jan in the first place, since she rejected his romantic advances and married another. From the story . . .]

"What a scheme! The body of a man and the mind of an ape. And I would have made a physical monster of him, but with a clear mind. She would not have recognized him — might not have acknowledged him; but now with features unchanged, she can't deny him — and when she has seen him she will die — die by the hand of her own son. I will teach him to slay. Only two words of the human language, other than his name and the names of these beasts, shall he know: 'Mother,' and 'Kill'!"

Now, as the demented physician looked at the sixteen-year-old ape-boy, a grin of triumph overspread his satanic features, for the awful climax of his revenge was nearly at hand .

In chapter 12 of the serial, Bracken is killed off by lightning. The original story had him put out of commission, but not killed, much more spectacularly.

Jan charges at the doctor. There were groans, snarls, thuds, curses — the snapping of human bones and the rending of human flesh.

Weeks later, Harry Trevor and his wife see Bracken carried in a litter by four Indians, a hideous, misshapen wreck of a man. One eyelid sagged in an empty socket. An ear was missing. Where the nose should have been, a small square of surgical gauze was held in place by bits of crossed tape. The arms and legs were twisted and useless.

[Editor's Note: Perhaps the book would have been more appropriately titled THE CALL OF THE SAVAGE, and the serial the much tamer *Jan of the Jungle.*]

CHAPTER TITLES

1. **Shipwrecked**
2. **Captured by Cannibals**
3. **Stampeding Death**
4. **Terrors of the Jungle**
5. **The Plunge of Peril**
6. **Thundering Waters**
7. **The Hidden Monster**
8. **Jungle Treachery**
9. **The Avenging Fire God**
10. **Descending Doom**
11. **The Dragon Strikes**
12. **The Pit of Flame**

(L. to R.) Borno (H.L. "Harry" Woods), Mona (Dorothy Short) and Jan (Noah Beery, Jr.). Note the "flexible band" on Jan's wrist.

Here's how Jan was described by Kline in the novel: "He was a handsome, superbly muscled lad, with a straight, athletic figure, broad shoulders, narrow hips, and the features of a Greek god, crowned by a tumbled mass of auburn curls."

Interestingly, Borno in the novel was "a Haitian Negro," second mate of a ship. In the serial, he is the exiled white Captain of the Guard of Mu — and is reinstalled in his old position in chapter 12.

Later, the serial was chopped down to feature length and released as "Savage Fury" — even more apropos than THE CALL OF THE SAVAGE.

Universal Pictures described their 15-episoder THE ROARING WEST thusly: "The West's most beautiful scenery forms the background for an action-filled battle of wits for the possession of rich gold claims in a district newly opened for settlement; and dangerous, spectacular adventures follow one another in swift succession. Follow Buck Jones and his companions thru the most thrilling adventures ever shown on the screen." (With direction by Ray Taylor, yet!)

Fact. THE ROARING WEST might be the worst of the Universals. This one just plodded on and on and on and . . . Half the time the writers couldn't even come up with a good piece of villainy to threaten Jones so they just made him unlucky. He stumbled into accidental explosions, floods, etc. over and over again. A real loser with sufficient plot for about a six-chapter serial.

For the record. Montana Larkin (Buck Jones) and his sidekick Jinglebob Morgan (Frank McGlynn, Sr.), ride into new territory to join an impending land rush. They possess a map giving the location of valuable mineral deposits which they expect to secure by location at the time of the land rush. Foiling them is Gillespie (Walter Miller), foreman of Jim Parker's (William Desmond) ranch. Parker has a lovely daughter, Mary (Muriel Evans), who at the end of Chapter 14 enters a corral and is pursued by a vicious bull, falling in its path. [Ed. Note: Too damn bad Jones lassoed the critter!]

CHAPTER TITLES

1. **The Land Rush**
2. **The Torrent of Terror**
3. **Flaming Peril**
4. **Stampede of Death**
5. **Danger in the Dark**
6. **Death Rides the Plains**
7. **Hurled to the Depths**
8. **Ravenging Flames**
9. **Death Holds the Reins**
10. **The Fatal Blast**
11. **The Baited Trap**
12. **The Mystery Shot**
13. **Flaming Torrents**
14. **Thundering Fury**
15. **The Conquering Cowpunchers**

NAT LEVINE PRESENTS

CLYDE BEATTY

IN

DARKEST AFRICA

With MANUEL KING

World's Youngest Wild Animal Trainer

DIRECTED BY

B. REEVES EASON and JOSEPH KANE

A Republic Serial

(Editor's Note: Jan in CALL OF THE SAVAGE had his chimp Chicma, for a foster mother (pg. 76). Not to be outdone, Baru (11-year-old Manuel King) in DARKEST AFRICA had Bonga, an ape, as protector.) (1)

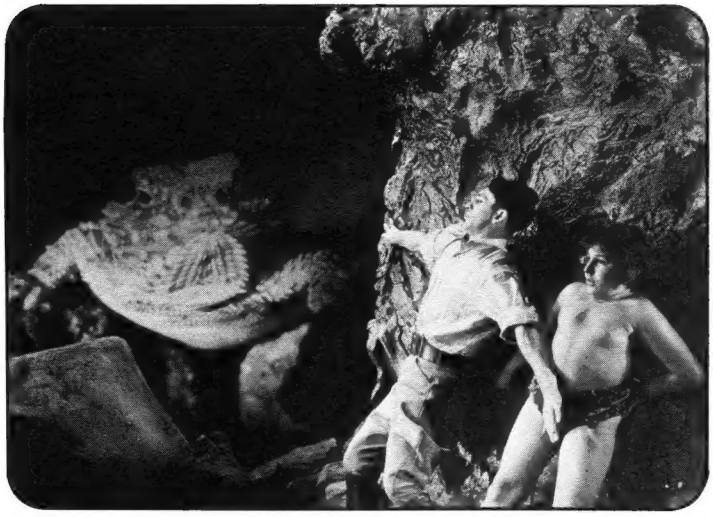
Beatty meets Baru, an obese boy raised in the jungle, and agrees to help him rescue his sister, Valerie (Elaine Shepard) from the Hidden City of Joba — where she has been "set-up" as a Goddess. (2)

At Joba, all things evil are controlled by Dagna, the high priest (Lucien Privel). He has a diamond "Processing Room," behind which is a quarry where the stones are removed by slaves. (5)

Beatty and Baru manage to gain access to Dagna's chambers and there encounter crooked animal traders, Craddock (Edmund Cobb, left) and Durkin (Wheeler Oakman). Valerie is rescued (temporarily). (6)

In chapter 9, Beatty is attacked once again by the Bat-Men on the fields outside Joba. At the wind-up, Beatty apparently is "killed" by the Bat-men's spears. (But Beatty manages to elude the spears.) (9)

Episode 14 sees Craddock and Durkin trying to beat 5'5½" Beatty into submission so they can trade him off to Dagna for diamonds. They fail. Then, Dagna decrees Beatty and Baru are to die. He fails. (10)



Along the way, they enter the Cavern of the Scaly Ones, where they are menaced by monsters — so says the pressbook. But this sequence was cut from the version reaching theaters. (3)

Next they find themselves in the land of the Tiger-Men. Beatty is captured and thrown into the sacrificial pit. At the end of chapter two, he is menaced by a huge tiger and appears doomed. (4)

Dagna orders a force of Bat-Men after the fugitives. (Ed. Note: Well costumed and trickily photographed, the flying Bat-Men add much to the excitement and "save" the serial from mediocrity.) (7)

Beatty and Baru are returned to Joba and thrown into a dungeon. Valerie rescues them. Earlier, Dagna offers Craddock "a handsome reward" for a supply of weapons. Here Bonga is seen assaulting the traders. (8)

Beatty, Baru and Valerie manage to escape from Joba in the nick of time — just before the city is engulfed in an earthquake. The two traders are crushed to death by falling masonry. (11)

CHAPTER TITLES

1. **Baru, Son of the Jungle**
2. **The Tiger-Men's God**
3. **Bat-Men of Joba**
4. **Hunter Lions of Joba**
5. **Bonga's Courage**
6. **Prisoners of High Priest**
7. **Swing for Life**
8. **Jaws of the Tiger**
9. **When Birdmen Strike**
10. **Trial by Thunder-Rods**
11. **Jaws of Death**
12. **Revolt of Slaves**
13. **Gauntlet of Destruction**
14. **The Divine Sacrifice**
15. **Prophecy of Gorn**

(Editor's Note: Ray Bernard, later Ray "Crash" Corrigan, played Samabi — a minion of Dagna. In 1948, Republic re-released the serial as KING OF JUNGLELAND. For TV, it became "Batmen — spelled as one word — of Africa.")

REPUBLIC PICTURES
PRESENTS

DICK TRACY

Based on Cartoon Strip
by Chester Gould

DICK TRACY at the mercy of The Lame One's henchmen in one of the serial's many good fight sequences. L. to R. are Loren Riebe (whose name was incorrectly spelled as Reibe on pg. 67); Al Taylor (not identified on pg. 67, and he *should* have been); Ralph Byrd as Dick Tracy; Buddy Roosevelt (inadvertently misnomered Roy Barcroft at the top of pg. 69, an inexcusable goof); and an actor difficult to pin-point.

(Continued from Page 69)

CHAPTER 10/*THE GOLD SHIP*

Durston attacks one of the officers on the fiercely burning dirigible and sends him falling to the floor. He picks up the officer's parachute . . . starts to escape thru a window.

Tracy regains consciousness and grabs Durston, who protests: "Let go! This parachute won't hold both of us."

"It's going to have to, Durston. Let loose."

Tracy and Durston land safely in the Pacific Ocean. Two men in a rowboat rescue them.

* * *

Later, back at the Federal Office Building, Anderson introduces Captain Bullock of the S/S Atlantis to Tracy. From Bullock they learn a million dollars in gold has disappeared from his ship. The question is: "How did the gold disappear?" It was kept in a special compartment that was locked and sealed between ports, yet when they went to open the compartment, the seal was just as it had been left — but the gold was gone. The only occurrence out of the ordinary during the Atlantis' voyage was being rammed by "a fishing smack."

Tracy correctly deduces, "This is no piker's job. In fact, it's big enough and clever enough to make me think . . ."

"The Spider Ring?" questions Anderson. "What are you going to do?

* * *

Meanwhile at Cragg's Head, *The Lame One* shuffles to his desk and tells Moloch to let Gordon in.

"Everything is ready?" asks *The Lame One* of Gordon.

"Here is a working diagram of the Atlantis. This is where our ship rammed her — here, near the bow, where we can get to it when we are ready."

* * *

At the shipyard where the Atlantis has been put in dry dock, preparations are made to replace one of the damaged iron plates in the hull of the vessel. In charge of the work is Clancy, minion of the Spider Ring. He and Tracy get into a lengthy fight in the hold of the ship for possession of an acetylene torch. During the scuffle, Tracy and Clancy fall out of the hole where the damaged plate has been removed and onto a platform. Above them is the plate, slowly being lowered by a rope. The flame of the torch commences to burn thru the rope. *The rope breaks in two,* sending the iron plate hurtling toward Tracy!!!

CHAPTER 11/*HARBOR PURSUIT*

Tracy sees the plate falling toward him. He predictably rolls over — and the plate lands on the spot where he was lying. The missing gold is eventually found in the hold of the ship.

* * *

Next, a government engraver is kidnaped by Gordon Tracy.

"We can make good use of your skill as an engraver, Mr. Coulter. It will be most convenient to manufacture our own money."

Dick Tracy and Steve are successful in tracing Coulter to a waterfront warehouse where he is being held prisoner. While searching the premises, Gordon discovers them. Tracy and Coulter flee in a motor boat. But Gordon and three of his henchmen pursue in their own speedboat.

Dick's boat gets out of control, so that he can no longer steer. A large ship looms in his path — and Tracy's boat heads directly toward the larger vessel.

CHAPTER 12/*THE TRAIL OF THE SPIDER*

Tracy manages to regain control of his speedboat. Meanwhile Brandon (in a Coast Guard cutter) appears on the scene and drives off Gordon and his cohorts.

The balance of the chapter is mainly concerned with a group sitting around Tracy's office discussing what has transpired in earlier adventures — all shown in flashback.

Suddenly Gwen reacts to hearing a noise in the hallway. "Listen!"

The sound is the shuffling feet of *The Lame One* as he walks along the corridor.

The Lame One opens a fuse box and unscrews a fuse. Then he opens the door to Tracy's office. The lights go off. A glowing spider mark appears on Tracy's forehead. *Shots!!!!*

CHAPTER 13/*THE FIRE TRAP*

Tracy eludes the bullets. Junior manages to snap a picture of *The Lame One* before he makes good his escape by crossing a board which is stretched between two buildings.

The Lame One joins Gordon and Moloch and they head by speedboat for a derelict ship in the harbor. Aboard the vessel is a man called "Kraft." He is given the mission of destroying the photo of *The Lame One* before the film can be developed.

Kraft is successful in destroying it, but in doing so inadvertently leaves behind "his calling card." Printed on it is: "Whitey's Chop House, San Francisco, $5.00 value for $4.50." On the corner is written "J. Kraft."

Steve suggests raiding Whitey's Place. But Tracy prefers to venture there alone. So that he can keep in touch with Steve, he attachs a small radio transmitter to his belt.

At the restaurant, Tracy "rediscovers" the pier hidden under Whitey's and hides beneath a piece of canvas in a speedboat awaiting Kraft's appearance. Kraft comes along and takes the boat to the derelict ship.

Tracy, undetected, boards the ship. He soon finds the cabin where *The Lame One,* Gordon, Moloch and Kraft are meeting. He enters and holds his antagonists at bay. But *The Lame One* moves his foot slightly and steps on a button on the floor. This sets off a buzzer in another room, bringing three "heavies" on the scene. A wild melee ensues. During it, a lamp is knocked off the table, falls on a pile of papers and ignites, starting a fire.

Tracy is hit over the head and rendered unconscious. The Spider Ring ties him up and flees. When he comes to, he radios Steve for help. Too late. At the conclusion, Tracy is seen laying on the floor in the companionway. Burning pieces of timber fall on him.

CHAPTER 14/*THE DEVIL IN WHITE*

Tracy is successful in freeing the ropes from his feet . . . takes to a stairway, climbs over the rail, and jumps into the water. Steve and Mike are there to rescue him.

* * *

The story moves to Tracy's study where Gwen, Junior, Mike, Potter and Odette are present.

Odette says: "Well, here I am again, always turning up like a bad penny."

"Why, not at all, Mr. Odette. You're always welcome, you know that." So says Gwen.

"Thank you . . . By the way, whatever happened to that engraver, the one the Spider's Ring tried to kill when he refused to make the counterfeit plates for him?"

"Why, nothing that I know of. He's probably still in the hospital."

At that moment, Dick Tracy is at the hospital questioning Coulter about the first hideout that the Spider Ring took him. A doctor enters and announces Coulter is to go home at three o'clock. Word of this is relayed to *The Lame One.* He makes plans to abduct Coulter and have him brought to Cragg's Head.

But Dick Tracy is certain this is the tact *The Lame One* will take. So *his* scheme is to assume Coulter's place, hoping his abductors will take him directly to the headquarters of The Spider Ring.

Unmarked police cars with two-way radios are to be scattered thru-out the city. "Only one car is to follow the Spider's car at a time," announces Tracy.

The pick-up vehicle turns out to be an ambulance. Tracy, his head bandaged so that his face is completely hidden except for one eye, is led to the ambulance by two attendants and climbs in.

The Lame One pulls a fast one and has the "patient" transferred (undetected) to a florist's truck. The pursuers temporarily lose the scent.

At Cragg's Head, Tracy gets the drop on Gordon and Moloch — reaches for a phone to summon help. But behind him, the wall opens and *The Lame One* comes out holding a gun.

"I wouldn't use that telephone!"

The bandages are removed. Recognizing Tracy, *The Lame One* says: "It seems our wish has come true. Dick Tracy is here to take Mr. Coulter's place."

Moloch is elated. "A marvelous opportunity. Take the great Dick Tracy to the operating room."

In the operating room, Moloch commands: "Get the ether ready and the cone. Would you increase the heat on that sterilizer, Gordon."

"Gordon . . . Is that my brother, Gordon Tracy?"

"So . . . The great Dick Tracy did not recognize his own brother . . . It was really a simple little operation on the brain . . . We planned it for Coulter. But since you have taken his place . . . The ether!"

Tracy struggles to free himself. The ether cone is put over his nose. His struggles finally cease.

CHAPTER 15/*BROTHERS UNITED*

The Lame One enters the operating room. "I see you have already administered the anesthetic, Moloch."

"Just enough to quiet him." He chuckles.

* * *

Meanwhile, Steve and Mike are successful in learning Dick was transferred from the ambulance to the florist truck. When the truck turns out of the drive leading from Cragg's Head, the truck and driver are spotted and captured by Steve and Mike. From the driver, they learn that Cragg's Head is The Spider's headquarters. Steve looks off in the other direction and sees the Sierra Power House. The light cometh. "Mike, get to the radio and tell Mr. Anderson we've located Dick Tracy and to get a flying squad out here right away. The Spider may try to escape in his *Wing."*

Back to the operating room and *The Lame One,* Moloch, and two doctors.

"Loosen the straps. We shall have to change his position to operate."

Gordon enters. "The lookout reports a squad of cars heading this way."

Tracy is left lying on the table (his straps loosened) as the others go to the window. *The Lame One* looks off in the distance with a pair of binoculars. "I shall prepare a fitting welcome for all G-men." He opens a cabinet revealing a mechanism made up of wires. He turns on a switch. A small light flashes on. "Now listen . . . An innocent harmless sound, yet each tick heralds the coming of eternity. And now we must hurry to the power house thru the secret tunnel. We can escape in *The Wing* before the G-men discover we are gone."

THE LAME ONE'S ESCAPE. This scene in the tunnel between Cragg's Head and the Sierra Power House never appeared in the film; was probably a publicity shot. Keep in mind, Moloch did not leave the operating room prior to his demise. L. to R. are Moloch, Gordon, two doctors (in white), *The Lame One,* Dick Tracy, Mike and Steve.

But Moloch stays behind. He walks over to a table and picks up a scapel. Before he can plunge it into Tracy, Dick grabs his hand and the two struggle. They topple over the operating table which falls on them. Moloch is knocked unconscious. A spilled can of ether, on a table above Moloch's head, commences dripping anesthetic on his face.

Tracy, now free of his bonds, heads for *The Lame One's* study when he hears the voices of Steve and Mike. He warns them the house is about to blow up. *It does!* — just as Dick, Steve and Mike enter the secret tunnel. (Moloch and his damn cat perish in the explosion.)

At the power house, a free-for-all ensues. During the melee, Dick takes on Gordon. *The Lame One* waits for his chance, then raises his gun above Dick's head. But Dick wheels around and the gun comes down on Gordon's head.

Tracy grabs *The Lame One* and they struggle. *The Lame One's* wig comes off in Tracy's hands. "Odette!" exclaims Dick. But Odette has not lost his gun.

"Keep back! You haven't got me yet. Outside Gordon!"

"Gordon," pleads Tracy. "Think. Try to remember."

Gordon looks at Tracy, not quite understanding Odette's command, then turns and walks toward the door.

Gordon and Odette drive off, with Dick, Steve and Mike pursuing in a police car at high speed.

Meanwhile, Junior and Gwen land Gwen's plane in a field nearby the power plant. They climb up an embankment and run onto the highway. Junior stumbles and falls. It is at that moment Gordon, driving, swerves around a curve and sees the hapless Junior and Gwen. *Recognition!* Gordon heads the car for the guard rail, crashes thru it, rolls down the embankment and lands against a tree.

Tracy's car appears. Mike stays with Junior and Gwen; Steve and Tracy run down to the wrecked auto. Tracy bends over Gordon and lifts him. "Gordon! Gordon!!"

Gordon opens his eyes. "Dick. How come you're here? What's the big idea?"

"Don't you remember, Gordon?"

"It's all like a horrible nightmare, Dick . . . I can't seem to remember anything . . . I think I'm going places." His head falls backward and he dies.

* * *

The fade-out comes several days later in Dick's study where he is congratulated by Anderson.

"Thanks, Clive, but forget the fuss and feathers. It's all a part of a G-man's job."

THE END

A Republic Serial

(Editor's Notes: Biggest mystery about this serial concerns *The Lame One*. True, he was mostly photographed with a shadow across his face, or the camera shot over his shoulder and focused on other characters. Yet on the few occasions he is seen, no explanation is given the audience to believe that his physical appearance is not *au naturel*. In-other-words, nary a word of dialogue, even remotely, suggests *The Lame One* is in reality another member of the cast wearing a disguise — in this case, a headpiece that extends over his eyebrows. By any reason of logic, Tracy should have penetrated the disguise during their several eyeball-to-eyeball confrontations. But the audience is NEVER TOLD that *The Lame One* is, indeed, disguised (and, evidently, somebody forgot to tell Tracy!). Worse, yet, the wig more times than not is covered by a hat, leaving only *The Lame One's* bushy eyebrows to change his appearance, plus dark eye shadow (quite obvious in episode 15 when the headpiece is removed). *Disconcerting!*

So why, you ask, devote 16 pages to DICK TRACY, then raise hell with the producers over their booboos? The answer: Regardless of the serial's shortcomings, it was all great fun (to an 11-year-old in 1937), and still great fun to a 44-year-old to write-up the 15 chapters in 1970!)

THOSE ENDURING MATINEE FANS

Without serial FANS, there would be no TEMI. So it is only fair to give them an opportunity to speak out. Unfair is that space limitations necessarily mean abbreviating (in some cases omitting) the many fine letters received.

DON "RED" BARRY

In your interview with Don Barry (pg. 63), he stated that he used no double for the dangerous stunts, but I have seen stills from the ADVENTURES OF RED RYDER in which you can see Dave Sharpe's face. Also, the Yrigoyen brothers stunt-doubled for him.

A. Gutierrez
Miami, Fla.

If "Red" Barry did do his own stunts in RED RYDER, what did Dave Sharpe and the Yrigoyen brothers get paid for? Doubling Little Beaver?

Dick Andersen
Chicago, Ill.

You know it and I know it, David Sharpe doubled Barry in RED RYDER and, in fact, finished the serial when Barry refused to do the last chapter — which probably accounts for the ragged ending that exists on the serial. And as for no other actor being considered for the role, Ted Mapes, a long-time stuntman, was cast in the lead role as Red Ryder and three days before shooting was to begin, was replaced by Barry at Herbert Yates insistance.

Don Daynard
Toronto, Ontario

Editor's Note: We hope to have Barry's rejoinder in chapter eight.

* * *

TAILSPIN TOMMY

I saw a few episodes of TAILSPIN TOMMY IN THE GREAT AIR MYSTERY (pg. 62) a few years back and would like to bolster your sentiments about how great the chapter one dirigible disaster was executed. It was worthy of Lydecker's best. My recollection of the cliffhanger, however, differs from Stringham's. Seems to me that Skeeter was either in the plane with Tommy or was helping undock it when the lightning bolt hit that split the airship in two. If memory serves, Tommy was in the cockpit and Skeeter was either with him or was standing above him manning the hook-up mechanism when a mass of steel girders crashed about them. I also saw the one where Tommy's plane nosedives into a volcano crater (chapter #2) and that was another great ending. The description of the mysterious hero's plane seemed a bit sketchy. It always barrel-rolled in mid-air and then "dissolved" out of the picture. I don't have any remembrance of it ever appearing. (Appearing as if by magic, I mean).

Woody Langley
Studio City, Calif.

THE WHISPERING SHADOW

How about some additional info on THE WHISPERING SHADOW. You certainly gave it short shrift on pg. 18.

E. S. Kadar
Lakewood, Ohio

Editor's Note: Professor Strang (Bela Lugosi) is actually a representative of the Federated Balkan States, who has brought the jewels of the Czar to this country as security for a loan. They have been stolen and hidden in the Empire Trucking warehouse by Slade, an escaped convict. THE WHISPERING SHADOW seeks the jewels to finance his plot to conquer the world. Dr. Steinbeck, a radio engineer for Empire, wants the jewels; and Jerome, Empire v.p., is after them to prevent the loan. He is the only living heir of the Czar from whom the gems were taken.

Each attack by the mysterious Whispering Shadow (or his henchmen) is preceded by neutralization of all radio apparatus in the radio lab atop the Empire warehouse. Good enough excuse for the Whispering Shadow to be exposed as Sparks, the Empire radio operator.

Others in the cast were George Lewis, Henry B. Walthall, Karl Dane, Viva Tattersall, Malcolm MacGregor, Robert Warwick, Roy D'Arcy, Ethel Clayton and Lloyd Whitlock.

CHAPTER TITLES

1. **The Master Magician**
2. **The Collapsing Room**
3. **The All-Seeing Eye**
4. **The Shadow Strikes**
5. **Wanted for Murder**
6. **The Man Who Was Czar**
7. **The Double Room**
8. **The Red Circle**
9. **The Fatal Secret**
10. **The Death Warrant**
11. **The Trap**
12. **King of the World**

* * *

MUSIC, MAESTRO, PLEASE

Maybe some of your readers interested in film music would care to join The Max Steiner Music Society. He wrote the music for over 315 films. Anyone interested can write the Society, c/o Albert K. Bender, Director; P. O. Box 45713; Los Angeles, Calif. 90045.

Albert Connors
Middletown, Conn.

TOM MIX

Belated comments on Tom Mix in THE MIRACLE RIDER (pg. 50). The one fact about Mix that is generally misstated is his age. I believe, but cannot absolutely prove, he was born in 1871, making him 69 at the time of his death, and 64 when he made the serial. Most of the stories about his experiences in various wars, and as a law officer, are *true*, and have been authenticated many times by *official documents*. He also served for a few months in W.W. One, was wounded and discharged. (Somehow this is never mentioned in most biographies.)

There were at least four different radio actors in the role of Mix (Artellus Dickson, Jack Holden, Russell Thorson and Curley Bradley). There may have been others briefly.

As to THE MIRACLE RIDER. I was too young to have seen it when it came out in '35, but I have seen it lately. Certainly it is dated. It is a *story* serial, and really not for much re-screening since it does not have "numbers" (dance routines or fist fights) to be looked at over and over. The plot is more complicated than the average sound serial, and was apparently made for an older audience than Autry's PHANTOM EMPIRE. The enjoyable Autry serial just seems a bit silly today; the Mix serial is much more believable (relatively speaking). While Cliff Lyons does a lot of stunts for Mix, Mix himself does many others: flying mounts, leaping fences on horseback, swinging from ropes, etc. Tom is aging a bit in this, but as with other writers, I think Lyons was used chiefly to save *time*. Mix was doing close-ups, while Lyons was doing long-shots. Incidently, time after time, I read that Mix hardly appeared in the serial, and that the story concerns all the minor characters, etc. THIS IS JUST NOT SO. Mix appears in 80% of the scenes. Granted, chapter nine is told almost entirely from the point of view of the Indian girl, but that doesn't even bring the average lower than that.

Jim Harmon
Hollywood, Calif.

* * *

KNOX MANNING

I have an interesting memory of Knox Manning (pg. 71) which illustrates that he was able to do more than just read with his marvelously sonorous voice. During W. W. II, there was a program called "I Was There." It dramatized historical events and then had an eye-witness present to comment briefly.

On one program, they did a sketch of Eugene Field's writing of "The Little Toy Soldier." Present to say, "I was there" was his elderly widow, but when the time came she was overcome with memories and couldn't utter a word. What could have been a catastrophe (programs weren't recorded then) was saved by Manning, who announced the show. Completely ad lib, he stepped in and covered for her. What he said was not only as smooth as if it had been in the script, it was also precisely right in tone — neither cold nor maudlin. Clearly, his voice had a brain behind it.

Dale D. Drum
Garden Grove, Calif.

HEROES OF THE WEST

One of my favorites was HEROES OF THE WEST and you hardly gave it passing mention on pg. 16.

Jack Spears
Tulsa, Okla.

Editor's Note: We didn't have much on this one, but in the meantime have acquired the lobby card on the right plus this bit from Universal's publicity: "Historical realism and authenticity characterizes this thrilling picture of the building of a transcontinental railroad thru hostile Indian territory. Political intrigue that stretches all the way from the nation's capital to the sun-parched prairies of the newly opened West, takes heavy toll on the builders. But every new obstacle is overcome with heroic resourcefulness, and the road goes thru as planned. Based on Peter B. Kyne's "The Tie That Binds."

CHAPTER TITLES

1. **Blazing the Trail**
2. **The Red Peril**
3. **The Avalanche**
4. **A Shot from the Dark**
5. **The Hold-up**
6. **Captured by the Indians**
7. **Flaming Arrows**
8. **Frontier Justice**
9. **The Iron Master**
10. **Thundering Death**
11. **Thundering Hoofs**
12. **End of the Trail**

* * *

CHAPTER 13

Whilst Charles King was nicer in THE PAINTED STALLION (pg. 22), he was really wholesome in ADVENTURES OF SIR GALAHAD as George Reeves' sidekick. From memory, I think he was something of a comical figure in it.

Chris Collier
Paddington, Australia

* * *

FU MANCHU'S DACOITS

Enclosed are three pages from the DRUMS OF FU MANCHU shooting script, dated 12/19/39, just three days prior to actual shooting. As you can see, Loki is scheduled to have no mouth: LOKI MOVES PAST CAMERA. As he does so, we get our first view of the face of Loki, Fu Manchu's most trusted dacoit. He is a powerfully built Oriental. Not only is his face marred by the regular dacoit scar, but it is the more horrible for lacking a mouth.

And the so-called speechless dacoits were not so, since dacoit #2 (Budd Buster) had one line in chapter two: "Illustrious One, I –", and he repeats it before Fu Manchu has him dropped thru a trap door to his fate at the tentacles of an octopus. He screams!

Dacoit #9, Dowlah Rao (Ernest Sarracino) was awarded a few lines in chapter five.

A. Gutierrez
Miami, Fla.

THOSE MAGNIFICENT HEROINES

On pg. 61, you state that "six is the maximum number of serials in which any one actress made an appearance in a principal role." Obviously, you have reference to the sound serials as I have seen little in TEMI on the silent serials.

Allene Ray starred in 15 serials for Pathe from '24 thru '29, ten of these starred her with Walter Miller. No other team appeared in so many chapter plays together. In '30, Allene Ray was starred with Tim McCoy in the Universal serial THE INDIANS ARE COMING (pg. 3), for a total of 16 serials in a seven year period.

Glenn Shipley
San Bruno, Calif.

Your accounting of actresses who have appeared in serials in a *principal* role has omitted Lorna Gray (later, her name changed to Adrian Booth). Since you make no distinction between appearances as a heroine or villain(ess), her contribution would total either 6 or 7 sound serials.

C. Walker
Denver, Colo.

Editor's Note: For Miss Gray, the count was six serials. She played the femme lead in FLYING G-MEN ('39), DEADWOOD DICK ('40), CAPTAIN AMERICA ('44) and DAUGHTER OF DON Q ('46). However, she was second to Kay Aldridge in PERILS OF NYOKA ('42) and Helen Talbot in FEDERAL OPERATOR 99 ('45). For this reason, we considered her role in these two not of a principal nature. Admittedly, the reason for omitting her is a gray area. So, giving Lorna's fans the benefit of a doubt, she, too, has been given the distinction of having her pic on the cover of TEMI. That's her lovely face in the "IDOL" on page 73. And for Allene Ray fans, there will be a pic of her in the next issue of TEMI.

VOICE TROUBLE

Some mention might be made of "projected" serials that were never made. Here are a few titles:

The Voice from the Sky, to have starred Wally Wales and produced by Ben Wilson Productions for GYB Productions.

Tarzan, Lord of the Jungle (Burroughs-Tarzan) was to follow THE NEW ADVENTURES OF TARZAN.

Two serials were announced by Empire Pictures, but nothing came of them. This was in '35, and the company did make several Lane Chandler Westerns.

In '35, Imperial announced plans for a 12-chapter serial to be called *Monsters of the Moon*.

Another planned serial from Burroughs-Tarzan ('36) was *Sky Fighters*.

Also announced in '36 from the Weiss Brothers for release thru Stage and Screen Productions: *The Pony Express, The Police Reporter* and *The Phantom Railroad*, and, from Ray Kirkwood's Gemini Productions, *Geronimo's Last Raid*, to be filmed in the Grand Canyon regions with "a selected cast and outstanding Cowboy stars."

Bill McDowell
Charleston, W. Virg.

I wonder if any of the other readers recall a serial released in the Fall of '29 called *The Voice from the Sky* with Wally Wales (Hal Taliaferro). It had a character in it called "The Man from Nowhere." It was all talking, but poorly put together.

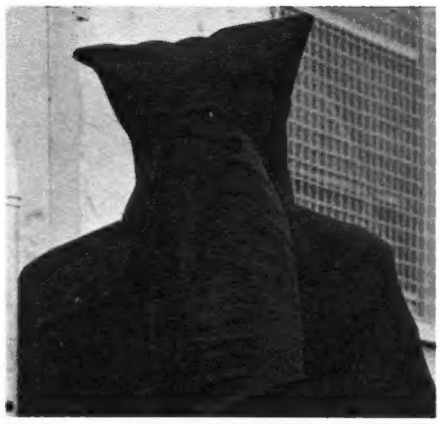
James Cleary
Malden, Mass.

For the record: Hoot Gibson played in an all-talking serial before 1930 called, *The Voice from the Sky*. It was very popular in our town. We would walk a couple of miles to see an episode. There was a cloaked figure in it called "The Man from Nowhere" (also a chapter title).

D. R. Sperduti
Fall River, Mass.

BEHIND THE MASK

Here are six of the miscreants who defied exposure and kept a captive audience guessing week after week. That is, until the last chapter. The toughest one to identify (in fact, damn near impossible) was THE MASTER KEY. A beautifully kept secret until the final few minutes. And, amazingly, the denouncement had a semblance to logic.



The secret mastermind of the underworld: *The Black Tiger,* in THE SHADOW (Col.-'40).

Meet the grotesque *Gargoyle,* nemesis of Warren Hull in THE SPIDER RETURNS (Col.-'41).

This Nazi group is awaiting orders from THE MASTER KEY (Univ.-'45), who will speak to them via a loudspeaker in back of unoccupied chair.

Hooper Atchley is at the mercy of *The Ghost,* who also has the power to make himself invisible, in DICK TRACY VS. CRIME, INC. (Rep.-'41).

Joyce Bryant in the clutches of THE IRON CLAW (Col.-'41). *"The Claw's Collapse,"* appropriately enough, winds up the serial.

Greatest masked villain of them all was *The Lightning* in THE FIGHTING DEVIL DOGS (Rep.-'38). His weapon spit-out thunderbolts!

1st ANNIVERSARY

Winston Churchill once observed in a different situation: "We have merely reached the end of the beginning." Well, he *could* have had TEMI in mind.

This chapter concludes, for the most part, the early years ('29-'35) of sound serials. It was a good beginning since the period did produce some genuine "goodies." But, sadly, they were in the minority.

Not so during the next decade. Between '36 and '45 most, certainly not all, of the best sound serials were given sweet birth. And this period, "The Ten Wonderful Years," made its debut on page 78 with a "photo" recapitulation of Republic's initial serial effort, DARKEST AFRICA.

Another item. Some think TEMI is the official spokesman on the subject of serials. Flattering, but an exaggeration. We do work hard to provide info for the specialist and also the generalist — and search out items of unusual interest. But we do not profess to know everything. So if we omit or goof, or become too excessive on a single subject, tell us. It will have the desired effect of keeping us on our toes.

Thanks to the many readers who have written complimenting our efforts and supplying us with bits (sometimes giant servings) of serial lore. We regret it is impossible to acknowledge every letter — but *every letter* is warmly appreciated, even those that take us (deservedly) to task.

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* * *

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FOR SALE: NEW CONDITION "WHITE EAGLE" 15-chapter Columbia serial starring Buck Jones. Complete in cans. Best cash offer over $400. Might trade for features or other serial with Buck (or Johnny Mack Brown) in same condition. RICHARD SCANLAND, 24045 Majestic Avenue, Oak Park, Michigan 48237.

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15 PAGE LIST!!! Serial, B-Western & B-Film soundtracks; radio programs. Also Movie Posters, Lobbies, Stills, Comics, BLB's. Send 8¢ stamp for list. DEE MAGERS, 3302 Edgewood Road, Columbia, Georgia 31907

WANTED: CLANCY OF THE MOUNTED, 16mm print of 1933 Universal serial, 12 chapters, starring Tom Tyler. Also one sheet posters and 16mm print of original theatrical trailer of same. GEORGE SILL, Room #11-B, 465 W. Milwaukee, Detroit, Michigan 48202.

WANTED: THE 4 DICK TRACY SERIALS (complete, odd footage or single chapters). Lobby Cards, Posters, Stills and Pressbooks also needed. All Ralph Byrd movies and material wanted. BART BUSH, 713 Sugar Maple, Ponca City, Oklahoma 74601.

M-G-M SOUVENIRS — "ROGERS RANGERS" HATS from *Northwest Passage* (1939). $3.00 each including postage. Also send stamp for serial lobby card list. HOWARD ADAMS, 5313 W. 94th Street, Los Angeles, California 90045.

WANTED! Material on the two GREEN HORNET serials — lobby cards and posters that MUST clearly show the *Hornet* in costume. Also desire 16mm prints, if available. MARVIN CHONOFSKY, 105-15 66th Road, Forest Hills, New York 11375.

MEMORY SHOP. Tons of interesting, old movie material for sale: Stills, Posters, Lobby Cards, Press Books, Movie Mags, Misc. SPECIALIZING in Horror, Western and SERIAL items. Mailing address: MEMORY SHOP, Box 365, Cooper Station, N.Y.C. 10003. You can visit us at 100 Fourth Avenue (near 11th Street) N.Y.C. — Phone: GR 3-2404.

SERIAL HEROES ON RADIO! Also Comedy, Drama. Taped RADIO shows $1.00 average. Catalog only $1.00. Nationally known writer-broadcaster (co-author with Don Glut on forthcoming Doubleday book about sound movie serials) JIM HARMON, Box 38612, Hollywood, California 90038.

LAST OF THE SERIAL KINGS 8" x 10" GLOSSY PHOTOGRAPH autographed to YOU by Kirk Alyn (as Superman). $2.00. Kirk was also star of *Blackhawk, Radar Patrol,* etc. Write KIRK ALYN FAN CLUB, Box 1362, Hollywood, California 90028.

REMEMBER "RED RYDER"?

Are you one of my fans who would like to see me make the kind of pictures I made in the '40s and '50s? If a million and a half of you will LEND ME ONE DOLLAR a piece, I can make ten pictures, starring myself and a young clean-cut actor, that will make the Saturday afternoon matinees again fit for yourselves and your children to view! Send the dollar to me with your name, address, and SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER, to Post Office Box 8387, Universal City, California 91608. PLEASE ENCLOSE SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE.

DON "RED" BARRY

PREVIEWS OF COMING ATTRACTIONS

Kudos to DARYL DAVY, Contributing Editor, "Film Fan Monthly" magazine, for coming-up with this new (and continuing) idea for TEMI . . . and taking the time and patience to transcribe the 5-minute preview and put into words what he saw. *Title cards are in italics.*

Action! Riders galloping full tilt into camera.

Thundering Across the Screen . . . Comes the Million-Dollar Serial with the Million-Dollar Cast . . . "Riders of Death Valley!"

Action! Stagecoach pursued by bandits. Dialogue: "Look out! A hold-up!" (Shots) Bandits force the coach off the road. The heroine screams as it overturns.

Cut to: Riders galloping towards camera. Theme song under: "Ride along, ride along . . . let us fight, fight for law and order till a wrong is right . . ." [Ed. Note: We kid you not!]

Universal Presents the Greatest Cast of Action Aces Ever Seen in a Mighty Cavalcade of Adventure!

(Flash card portraits of the stars.)

One - Dick Foran, for daring heroism!; Two - Leo Carrillo, for laughs!; Three - Buck Jones, for the best ridin', shootin', fightin' on the screen!; Four - Charles Bickford, for menace!; Five - "Big Boy" Williams, for comedy and action!; Six - Lon Chaney, Jr., for drama!; Seven - Noah Beery, Jr., for youthful recklessness; Eight - Jeanne Kelly, for romance! All Bringing You Thrill-After-Thrill . . . in the Most Important Serial Ever Made . . . "Riders of Death Valley!"

Cut to: Hide-out of villains. Two heavies have the hero hog-tied. Dialogue (chief heavy to henchmen): "When are you going to learn to do as you're told? Hero: "They figured it was more your type of work, Wolf." Heavy, pulling gun: "That's right, Fenton . . . and I'll enjoy it!"

Cut to: Watering hole. Dialogue (Leo Carrillo to Dick Foran): "Hey! Why you wanna put your dirty face in my horse's water? Don't you know I gotta healthy horse and you put 'germans' in the water?" (Cut to cabin interior) Hero: "Mary! They're trying to smoke us out!"

Action! Burning haywagon crashes into cabin.

Fifteen Action-Crammed Chapters Offering Fifteen Weeks of Great Entertainment for Young and Old!

Action! Two men fighting on top of cliff. Both fall into water below. Cut to: Stampede!

See . . . The Stampede of a Thousand Wild Horses! Thrill! to Wonders Actually Photographed in Famous Death Valley! Gasp! At the Most Reckless Daredevil Stunts Ever Filmed!

Action! Fistfight on top of coach . . . hero falls off heavily.

Cut to: Sheriff's office (exterior). Dialogue (Heavy in front of lynch mob): "You've got 30 seconds to get out of the way!" The sheriff responds: "I've never lost a prisoner yet, and I'm not losing one now!" Mob: "Get him! Get him!"

Cut to: Men leaving building . . . spot burning keg of powder in doorway. "Powder! It'll explode . . . look out!" (Ka-Boomm!)

Epic in Scope . . . Tremendous in Sweep . . . As Men Fight and Die in the West's Struggle for Existence!

Action! Runaway wagon plunging over cliff. Heroine screams.

Cut to: Stars riding towards camera. Theme song under.

Dick Foran, Leo Carrillo, Buck Jones and Charles Bickford . . . with . . . "Big Boy" Williams, Lon Chaney, Jr., Noah Beery, Jr. Jeanne Kelly and Monte Blue . . . in the Year's Super-Serial . . . "Riders of Death Valley" . . . A Universal Picture!

TIME OUT . . .

for (l. to r.) Lucile Browne, Rex Bell and Tom Tyler, while shooting exterior scenes for the serial BATTLING WITH BUFFALO BILL, Universal-'31. (See pg. 9).

Miss Browne was Gene Autry's leading lady in his first starring feature-length movie (*Tumbling Tumbleweeds* in '35). One thing she vividly remembers about Gene was his rabid enthusiasm for baseball, which is still true today.

"Girls' softball was the rage then. There were small parks all over town. Jim (James Flavin, who married Lucile — see pg. 33) and I invited him to go with us to a game. He was to meet us at the park and we would save him a seat. He arrived after the game started. We were sitting high up in the bleachers so he had to climb thru the crowd to reach us. He was all decked out in one of his fancy cowboy outfits. (At that time, it was rare to see one off the set.) You can imagine the comments and razzing he took. Jim and I wanted to sink thru the seats. Little did we realize, then, that he was starting a new era by being the first really popular *singing* cowboy."

At the right is a recent pic of Lucile Browne Flavin. Older, yes. But still a beautiful lady.